

Claims

1. A method of evaluating the breath of a test subject, comprising the following steps:
 - a) collection of a breath sample from the test subject in a container,
 - 5 b) reduction of the microbial load of the breath sample contained in the container, and then
 - c) evaluation by a tester of the breath sample collected in the container.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that, in step a), the container is filled with breath by the test subject against atmospheric pressure by exhalation.
3. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that the volume of the container is variable, the container preferably being collapsible.
- 15 4. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that the container possesses an internal surface made of an odourless material.
5. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that the container is filled with 20 ml to 7 l of breath in step a).
- 20 6. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that the microbial load is reduced by condensation of moisture from the breath sample in the container.

7. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that the temperature of the breath sample is adjusted to a value of 20°C to 40°C before performing step c).
8. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that
5 the test subject fills the container in step a) by exhaling through the mouth, and preferably after inhaling through the nose.
9. A method according to one of the above claims, characterised in that the breath sample is anonymised prior to evaluation.
10. A method of evaluating an oral care product, comprising the following
10 steps:
 - a) taking a first breath sample from a test subject by a method according to one of claims 1 - 9,
 - b) subsequently administering the oral care product to the test subject,
 - 15 c) taking an additional breath sample from the test subject using a method according to one of claims 1 - 9 at a pre-selected time after administering the oral care product, and
 - d) comparison of the first and the additional breath sample by a tester.